

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended.

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Klimach for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative, Mr. Jason Vick, during the May 2, 2005 interview. During the interview, Claim 20 was discussed and contrasted with the Smith and Ishii references. Examiner Klimach indicated that further clarification of the term attributes would overcome the Smith and Ishii references. By this Amendment, the independent claims have been amended to recite that each attribute can at least have the value of pending, in progress, process ended with an error message, process done, sending a certification request and done.

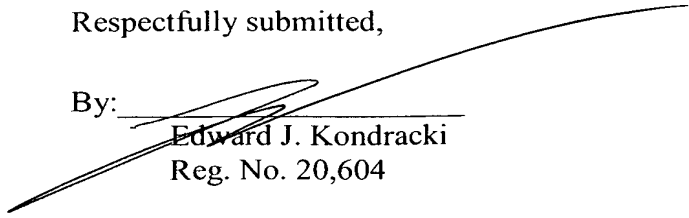
In that none of the cited references teach or suggest this feature, Applicants respectfully submit the application is in condition for allowance. A prompt Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that any further action is necessary to place this application in better form for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (T3264-906313) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

JHV:jab
#9270135
Miles & Stockbridge P.C.
1751 Pinnacle Drive, Suite 500
McLean, Virginia 22102-3833
(703) 903-9000
May 19, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Edward J. Kondracki
Reg. No. 20,604

Jason H. Vick
Reg. No. 45,285